



United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia

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NEWS RELEASE

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Correctional Officer Sentenced for Bribery

WASHINGTON - Correctional Officer Thomas Ford, 35, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced on Thursday, May 20, 2010, to twelve months and one day in prison for bribery of a public official in connection with a scheme to smuggle contraband to inmates in the Correctional Treatment Facility in exchange for cash, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and Shawn Henry, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office, announced today.

At his guilty plea in February, Defendant Ford admitted that between October 2008 and March 2009 he accepted cash payments in exchange for agreeing to smuggle cell phones, an iPod and a charger to a cooperating inmate in the Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF), which is operated by the Corrections Corporation of America under contract with the District of Columbia Department of Corrections.

"The criminal justice system and the residents of the District of Columbia place a significant measure of trust in Correctional Officers and rightly deserve, and should demand, ethical Correctional Officers," said U.S. Attorney Machen. "Whenever anyone violates the public trust and breaks the law, we will prosecute them vigorously."

In announcing the arrests, U.S. Attorney Machen and FBI Assistant Director in Charge Shawn Henry commended the outstanding investigative work of Special Agents Amanda Romek and Andrew Sekela. They also acknowledged the efforts of U.S. Attorney's Office paralegal Maggie McCabe, as well as Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas Hibarger, who is prosecuting this case.

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